

THE HOUSEHOLD.

A Tunnel and Milk Dipper Go Far to Facilitate Preserving and Pickling.

Preserving and pickling, which have already engrossed the attention of the housekeeper for some weeks, will still be a fruitful subject for weeks to come, until the approach of the winter season relegates the last of the fruits to tender memory. It is a hard task, and one involving much labor, annoyance and frequent failures, but Good Housekeeping adds that the latter are usually due to a want of care, thoughtfulness and thoroughness and gives the following advice on the subject:

It is not always necessary for this purpose to have the highest grade of fruit as to size, fairness and other fancy qualifications, but there must be no mistake in one respect—it should always be fruit that is sound, of a proper degree of ripeness, free from contamination of any kind, fresh and reliable. Too many times it is supposed that "the making up" will hide defects which ought not to exist. This is being dishonest to one's own self and family—a very poor kind of deceit at any time and under any circumstances.

Another thing which should be accepted at the outset is in working from a recipe to follow that recipe implicitly in all respects. No matter if it may seem that some of the instructions are absurd, trifling or unimportant, the writer of the formula had a reason for just the details laid down. It may not have seemed desirable or necessary to specify the wherefore for each step of the process, but quite likely the difference between success and failure may center in some very unobtrusive point.

Wherever they are available it is best to use glass vessels for canning. They are clearly, permit at all times a perfect inspection of the contents, and a household once stocked and using care not to break will require no material outlay in the way of replenishment for years to come. It is quite commonly supposed that glass jars must be dipped in hot water before they are filled, but this is not at all necessary as a guard against breakage. If a glass has been set on a flannel cloth wet with cold water, it may be filled with boiling fruit without any danger of a break on account of unequal expansion.

A grocer's tunnel and a small milk dipper form the best known combination for putting the hot fruit into jars, and it is surprising to observe how much disagreeable labor is saved by these articles in combination with the folded wet cloth as a base for the glass.

Jellies may be covered with waxed paper, branded paper or more readily and efficiently by pouring over the top of the jelly, when quite cold, enough melted paraffin to exclude the air. This hardens at once, may be readily removed when the jelly is to be used and is capable of being reused for an indefinite number of times. Any cheap paper may then be put over the top of the tumbler or jar to protect from dust.

A Novel Tea Cozy.

The ordinary tea cozy is a treasure in households where meals are liable to be kept waiting, but a cozy depleted not long ago in 'The Ladies' Home Journal' is a decided improvement. One of its distinctive features is that it does not need to be removed when pouring out, so that the second cup will be just as hot as the first. Every one knows that much heat is lost by the removal of a cozy even for a moment. The materials consist of two contrasting shades, two ounces each, of double Berlin zephyr wool. Sage green with either very pale sky blue or salmon pink looks well, or else golden brown with primrose yellow, keeping in all cases the pale color for the lining and frill. Some ribbon



A STATIONARY TEA COZY.

for a bow and twist around the base of the frill is required for a finish. This should match the frill in color. Take knitting needles No. 4, and with the darker shade for the outside cast on 39 stitches; work one row plain. Then the rest is carried out in what is sometimes known as briache stitch. This is worked by making one, slipping one and taking up two in every row the same. The cozy is worked in four sections—two for the outside and two for the lining. For each section use up one ounce of wool, reserving just enough to join up the sides when finished. For the lining cast on 39 stitches instead of 39. This will give it additional length sufficient for the frill at the top. In joining up leave a slit on each side large enough for the handle and spout to pass through, as shown in the illustration. Nothing simpler than this mode of making a tea cozy can well be imagined.

Grape Catchup.

Boil 10 pounds of grapes for ten minutes, pressing the pulp through a colander to retain the seeds and skins. Add a pint of vinegar, a tablespoonful of cloves, two tablespoonfuls each of ground allspice and cinnamon and a half teaspoonful of cayenne pepper. Boil until thick enough, which will require 45 to 60 minutes, bottle and seal.

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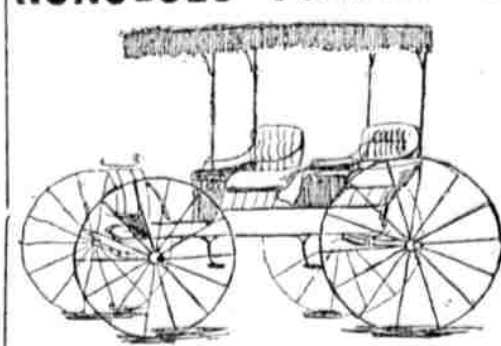
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